

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

MAY 11, 2004

Recently, an inmate at Men's Central Jail was found dead in his cell. The inmate, Raul Tinajero, had been transferred from State Prison to Sheriff's temporary custody to serve as a witness in a criminal matter after which he was going to be transported back to State Prison. It is a major concern that the circumstances surrounding the death of inmate Tinajero may have been as a direct result of his cooperation in the prosecution of the criminal matter.

Among the many concerns, this incident presents the potential for chilling future testimony by witnesses in criminal matters for fear of a similar result. This event, unfortunately, undermines the Sheriff's continued efforts in maintaining the safety and security of everyone in custody.

It is incumbent upon the County to utilize all tools available to conduct a careful and thorough investigation to ensure that a similar incident does not occur in the future and restore confidence in the Sheriff's ability to maintain security in the jails.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

1. Request the Sheriff to investigate and provide a full report of the circumstances surrounding the murder of Inmate Tinajero, in closed session, on May 11; and,
2. Request the District Attorney to seek the assistance of the Grand Jury for a thorough investigation of this incident.

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MDA:apc

MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

BURKE \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_